

Governor's Water Augmentation Council

Recycled Water Committee

January 26, 2017 Meeting Summary

Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Location: Arizona Department of Water Resources

The Governor's Water Augmentation Council (GWAC) Recycled Water Committee was formed at the October 28, 2016, GWAC meeting. The committee was formed to evaluate the progress made on the Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel on Water Sustainability recommendations for reclaimed water, and to consider statewide opportunities for future recycled water projects.

Welcome and Introductions

The committee chair, John Kmiec, introduced the committee members present: Brian Payne, Colette Moore, Lawrence Marquez, and Brad Hill. Committee members Maggie Messerschmidt and Chuck Graff were unable to attend.

Wendy Broley: Integrated Water Management – The Blueprint for One Water

Wendy Broley, a consultant with Brown and Caldwell at their San Diego office, presented on the Blueprint for One Water which was developed in collaboration with the Water Research Foundation. One Water is defined as an integrated planning and implementation approach to managing finite resources for long-term resilience and reliability, meeting both community and ecosystem needs. The Blueprint for One Water reflects the input from more than 800 water professionals through an international survey, more than 10 one-on-one interviews, and a 2-day workshop with more than 35 water professionals.

The driving forces toward a One Water approach, according to Ms. Broley, are steadily rising temperatures in the United States, extreme precipitation events, extended drought periods, aging infrastructure, and operating expenses exceeding revenues. Additionally, Arizona faces potential groundwater overdraft, uncertainty regarding the reliability of surface water supplies, and potential restrictions on Central Arizona Project deliveries in the future.

In order to overcome these challenges, the Blueprint for One Water provides step-by-step guidance:

- Setting the Foundation by Defining the One Water Scope
- Establishing Direction by Crafting the Vision and Objectives
- Developing the Framework by Establishing Lasting Leadership and Developing Financial Strategies

- Implementing the Framework.

Throughout this process, utilities and program managers are engaging stakeholders, such as regulators, the public, and elected officials.

Mr. Kmiec noted that Arizona had developed a similar and successful approach to One Water through the Groundwater Management Act of 1980, and the state has the right attitude and mentality when confronting water challenges.

ADWR Deputy Assistant Director Gerry Walker asked Ms. Broley if she had encountered state agencies or other local governments who were participating in One Water due to the need for water augmentation strategies rather than for constructing green infrastructure. Ms. Broley replied that the Los Angeles One Water plan detailed several options for augmenting water supplies, including potable reuse, capturing storm water, and groundwater recharge. She noted that there were probably more state agencies participating in One Water for supply augmentation purposes.

Ms. Broley asked the audience if there was anyone in the room who had experienced declining flows in their overall operations. Mr. Kmiec answered that in his experience in Pima County, the growth and efficiencies in new development areas have resulted in increased energy use to treat higher concentrations of waste streams. Ms. Broley commented that declining flows or higher concentrations of waste streams may affect how an agency or utility approaches its water supply augmentation strategy. For instance, a reduction in flow may result in increased hydrogen sulfide odors and the corrosion of infrastructure. Utilities have adapted to this situation by spending additional funds to repeatedly flush their systems.

For more information on the Blueprint for One Water, Ms. Broley's presentation can be [found here](#).

Committee Discussion on Updates and Future Agenda Items

Mr. Kmiec mentioned that the next Arizona Water Reuse Conference will occur in Flagstaff from July 22nd to July 24th and encouraged the meeting attendees to participate.

Closing Remarks

The next Recycled Water Committee meeting has not been scheduled.